HOUSE BILL 2793

By Casada

AN ACT to name a bridge on State Route 246 in Williamson County in honor of the late Specialist Danny Gale Martin, United States Army.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly have seen fit to name certain highways and bridges to honor the memory of those courageous members of the United States Armed Forces who gave their lives while serving our nation; and

WHEREAS, no person is more deserving of this honor than the late Specialist 5 Danny Gale Martin, United States Army, who made the ultimate sacrifice for his country on December 1, 1969, while serving in Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, Specialist Martin followed the patriotic tradition for which Williamson County and the Volunteer State are renowned by enlisting and serving with distinction in the United States Army after graduating from Franklin High School; and

WHEREAS, the seventh son of twelve children, Danny Gale Martin grew up on his family's farm in Williamson County; he is still fondly remembered by his family and friends as "nice, kind and thoughtful"; and

WHEREAS, Specialist Martin was assigned to the 610th Eng Co., 864th Eng BN, 35th Eng Group, I8th Eng BDE, USARV ENG CMD, USARV, Army of the United States, and served with courage and proficiency in Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, Specialist Danny Gale Martin served with great courage and gallantry, giving his life for his country and for the cause in which he believed, and for that ultimate sacrifice, he deserves proper recognition; as a member of the United States Army, he proudly continued an essential tradition of American society: the concept of the citizen-soldier; and

WHEREAS, Specialist Martin's dedication to excellence in the military and his love of his family, his fellow soldiers, country and county, exemplified in his sacrifice of life itself in defense

of all that he held dear, stand as enduring examples of all the characteristics that have ensured the continued freedom of our nation and the preservation of its ideals over the course of our history; and

WHEREAS, Danny Gale Martin selflessly gave his life while serving his country, and it is thus most appropriate that a certain bridge on State Route 246 in his home county should be named to honor his memory; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, Bridge No. 945624900011 on State Route 246 (Carters Creek Pike) near Perkins Road in Williamson County is hereby designated the "Danny Gale Martin Memorial Bridge" in recognition of the life of valor and death in patriotic service of Specialist 5 Danny Gale Martin, United States Army, one of Tennessee's most heroic citizens.

SECTION 2. The department of transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating the bridge described in Section 1 as the "Danny Gale Martin Memorial Bridge". The cost of such signage shall be funded in accordance with Tennessee Code Annotated, § 54-1-133.

SECTION 3. The erection of such signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

SECTION 4. This act shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the commissioner of transportation in writing that the provisions of this act shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

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